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OAKLAND 2, CALIF.

THE MESSENGER

OF THE OAKLAND & BERKELEY STAKES OF ZION

Volume III. Berkeley, California, May 1949 Number 10

Mark E. Peterson Council of Twelve

The parable of the Watchtower was one of the highlights of Mark E. Peterson's address at the Sunday morning session of the Oakland Stake Quarterly Conference April 10.

Just as those servants grew lazy and slothful after they questioned

the need for preparing for the coming of the enemy, we can become slothful and inactive when we ask, "What need hath my Lord of this program or that program."

While we are inattentive, we can be caught unawares, he pointed out.

If we sin a little here, sin a little there and get away with it,

(Continued on page 6)

Program Announced For No. Calif., M Men-Gleaner Convention May 27-30

The thrilling annual M Men-Gleaner Northern California Convention will see hundreds of delighted young people from far and near gathered as the guests of the Oakland stake May 27 to 30, 1949. Registration begins at the Oakland chapel, MacArthur and Webster Streets, Oakland, Friday, May 27, at 3 p.m., with a fee of $5.00 for all to cover expenses of a wonderful program of entertainment as well as meetings. Visitors from the General MIA Superintendency will attend.

Friday evening comes the gayest Carnival imaginable with side shows, movies, hot dog stands, popcorn booths and a charming program, all for free. Saturday morning Elmhurst ward chapel, 9658 Thermal Street, Oakland (just one block north of MacArthur and 96th Avenue), will see the throng in separate M Men and Gleaner meetings, followed by lunch.

Saturday afternoon is set aside for sports—everything at Arroyo Viejo Park (78th Avenue between East 14th Street and MacArthur) all well planned for pep and interest.

Saturday evening (O, that is one evening to remember), begins with a delicious dinner at the Elmhurst ward chapel, baked ham and all the trimmings, accompanied by a stunt program of talent from all the participating stakes. But that's only the beginning, ONLY THE BEGINNING: Following the dinner the scene changes to the lavish Scottish Rite Auditorium overlooking beautiful Lake Merritt where the magic strains of Homer Cockrill's orchestra will waft the lightfoot and the gay heart into fairyland. And besides, a delightful floor show interval will be provided.

Sunday morning the happy

(Continued on Page 5)

Ezra T. Benson Council of Twelve

"It's all a land of Zion," pointed out Ezra T. Benson, "and you are a part of Zion out here."

Foretelling a greater future for the Church, he said that we will have many more stakes all thru

California and all over this land that "we have just begun—we've just scratched the surface."

We must realize that we don't have to lower our standards to be accepted.

"I know of no surer way to success than living the standards of the Gospel—the world will accept."

(Continued on Page 8)

"Weather Change Changed My Life"

Some 40 odd years ago in the city of Liverpool, England, one sultry Sunday evening my father was walking to evening services at the church he was then attening. He had gone about half way when a storm broke and the rain poured down. Father sought shelter in the doorway of a store, watching the rain. He became conscious of music somewhere over his head (music had always interested him since he had been a choir boy in a Roman Catholic Cathederal in his youth). He looked around and saw a door and stairway leading to a room over the store.

Father entered the room and listened to the speaking and singing of the L. D. S. service. Afterwards he talked to the Elders for some time.

When he arrived home, he told the family some of what he had heard and asked them to attend to attend the L. D. S. services with him the next Sunday. At first we made fun of the Mormons, their polygamy, ect.; but we attended the next service, and the next.

In the course of time some of us joined the Church and later came to Zion where I met my husband. We were married in the Salt Lake Temple. Our two living children (girls) also were married in the Temple. We hope their boys will go on missions and bring others to the knowledge of God's Church, as we were brought. I would like to thank the mothers and fathers of all missionaries and the missionaries themselves; may the Lord always bless them all.

I leave this thought with you: It is the human touch in this world that counts, the touch of your hand and mine. That means far more to the fainting heart than shelter, or bread and wine. For shelter is gone when night is past and bread lasts a day. But the sound of the voice and the touch of the hand live on in the heart alway.

—Testimony of Rose Lincoln Snyder (Mrs. W. W. Snyder), given in the Mesa Temple, Arizona, Feb. 18, 1949, at time of the Oakland Stake Temple Excursion.

Gems of Thought, Harold B. Lee's Berk. Stake Talks

"Keys of the priesthood" are appointments to us to do special duties in the Church.

Joseph Smith once told Pres. Buchanan in Washington, in answer to the president's question as to just how the LDS differ

from other Christian churches: "We have the Holy Ghost and they do not."

There is always a man-made substitute for everything in God's Church. While doing lots of good in their own way, they are apt to lead our people astray from the true fold, for they are not connected with the work of God. This applies to youth and relief organizations of various kinds.

Dr. John A. Widtsoe once replied to some Elders who pressed him with the question as to when the Church last had any revelation, "Oh, about last Thursday." (Thursday is the day the General Authorities hold their weekly meeting in the holy temple in Salt Lake City.)

Pres. Geo. Albert Smith told of

(Cntinued on page two)

Forty-five Make the Mesa Trip; Berkeley Stake Temple Excursion

Forty-five members made the Berkeley stake Mesa Temple excursion April 9 to 16, 1949, and completed over three hundred endowments and over 500 sealings for the dead. Of the 45 excursionists 42 were from Berkeley stake and one each from the Northern California Mission, the Oakland and the Reno stakes. Claremont ward carried the honors for having the lucky number thirteen members on the excursion. Every ward in the stake was represented. Thirty-seven traveled on the chartered Greyhound bus, two by regular bus, and six by train.

Those in the chartered bus report a friendly and interesting time, with lots of entertainment led by Roy Clovis and his guitar, and aided by accordion music by Lorenzo Eggerts of Carquinez ward, and excellent mouthorgan playing by Melvin Clayton and Francis Mellor of Pittsburg, and Edward Cullum of Martinez.

Old songs and favorite hymns wiled the hours away between stops which were made at the option of the group only. The two Clovis children were sweet and interesting to all.

One of the distinct pleasures was the association of the group with our old friends Charles and May Carr, who are now permanent temple workers in the beautiful Mesa temple. He wept at our arrival and almost did the same at our departure, and they entertained us at their home and performed every possible service for the group while in Mesa.

They are supremely happy. They have purchased a fine home in Mesa near the temple and are dedicating their lives to temple work. They feel this is the direct result of a dream in which their dear son, Boice Carr, appeared to May soon after his sudden death and said he wanted them to do more temple work.

President Harry L. Payne is a grand character well worth the trip just to feel his spirit. To hear him in chapel and in his counsel at the marriage altar was a treat we will never forget. His two fine counselors and all the sweet temple workers bear in their countenances evidences of the divinity of the work they are dedicated to perform in the House of the Lord. All members of our party have had their lives greatly enriched by the holy principles and ceremonies of the temple, and feel to thank God for the privilege to go.

Most helpful was James Wight,

(Continued on page eight)

Pres. Glenn C. Shaw

NEW SECOND COUNSELLOR IN OAKLAND STAKE PRESIDENCY.

Glenn C. Shaw was born in 1911 in Ogden, Utah. In 1933 his business took him to Salt Lake City where he served as program di-

rector at Station KSL in Salt Lake City. In 1944, he came to Oakland as manager of Radio Station KLX, a position he still fills. Brother Shaw has served at various times as Elder's Quorum president, and as ward counselor, and also as stake superintendent of the YMMIA in the Oakland stake, prior to its division. He was called to serve as Bishop of Elmhurst ward January 25, 1947, and as chairman of the Bishop's Council in the Oakland stake.

Brother Shaw married Lucille

(Continued on page 2)

President Eugene Hilton Released Delbert F. Wright New Head Ruth Savage Hilton Praised

Conducting his 48th quarterly conference session, Oakland Stake President Eugene Hilton ended more than 12 years of service in the Stake Presidency when he was released April 10, 1949, because new school duties will take him out of the Bay Area. Apostle Ezra T. Benson in the morning's principal address praised President Hilton's work, and pictured the growth of the LDS church in the Bay Area.

Other releases presented by Elder Benson included: Delbert Wright, first counselor; Angus H. Norberg, second counselor; High Councilmen, Rufus O. Phelps, William H. Evans, Archie Inger, Charles Gustaveson, Wilford W. Snyder, Horace J. McFarlane; from the High Priests' quorum, President Don Allphin, first counselor Glenn E. Smith, second counselor Knute I. Torgersen, Secretary Albert H. Elmer and Treasurer LeRoy S. Hill; from the 380th Quorum of Seventy Franklin D. Webb and Harry D. Maurer.

Sustained to preside over Oakland Stake was Delbert F. Wright whose first counselor is Angus Norberg and second counselor, Glenn E. Shaw. Paul J. Hallman was sustained to continue as secretary. Dennis L. Lauper, formerly bishop of Dimond ward, was sustained as a member of the High Council; and R. O. Phelps as president of the High Priests' Quorum.

One of the features of Brother Benson's talk was reading of a letter from the Church presidency expressing gratitude for President Hilton's service. "It would have done your hearts good to have heard the members of the Presidency discussing President Hilton and his work," Brother Benson said.

Speaking of the kind of leadership in the LDS Church, Brother Benson said the world marvels how we get such men to respond. We do it, he said, because our leaders know the blessings that come when we are called to service.

In response to the talk, President Hilton recalled the history of the stake and marvelled at the

(Continued on page seven)

Berk. Stake Youth Award Festival

On Saturday, May 21, the youth of Berkeley Stake and their leaders will meet at the Vallejo Ward chapel, at 7:30, for an evening of fun at the Youth Award Festival.

All Standard Quorum Awards and Standard Girls' Group Awards earned in 1948, will be presented on that night, and to top it all off, there will be ice cream galore and everything to go with it.

The partners of the youth leaders are also asked to come.

Standing, left to right: Angus H. Norberg, formerly second, now first counselor; Delbert F. Wright, new president; and Eugene Hilton, retiring president of Oakland stake. The change was made at the Oakland stake quarterly conference, April 10, 1949.

The Messenger

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare my way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple." Mal. 3:1.

Alameda Ward

GAYLEEN CLAYSON

The month of April came forth with a number of building fund activities, as follows: A rummage sale and luncheon by the Relief Society and the play "Nuts and Bolts" put on by the Elmhurst ward. The events proved to be very successful and we wish to thank all who helped.

Our chapel is nearing the time of its dedication; the seats and the carpets are in place. Also our landscaping is coming along beautifully. Elder Mark E. Peterson and Ezra Taft Benson, visiting authorities at the stake conference, were shown thru the Alameda chapel and commented that it is truly a fine structure.

The Lessons on Marriage and Courtship given by Sister Russel of Dimond ward for three consecutive Tuesdays were very enlightening. We extend thanks to her for her splendid efforts.

Alameda's summer program for the MIA will begin with a period of six weeks of folk dancing. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these enjoyable times.

Bishop Winkel's mother and his sister, Mrs. N. T. Hallen and family were visiting at Easter time from Utah.

Rolland Erickson and Ruth Davis were wed in the Chapel of the Flowers Thursday, April 28. Bishop Winkel performed the ceremony.——Earl Smith and George Balding were baptized April 30 in the Oakland ward font.

Delores Knowles is in charge of book sales for the ward. There is a very good assortment of books and returns will go to the building fund.

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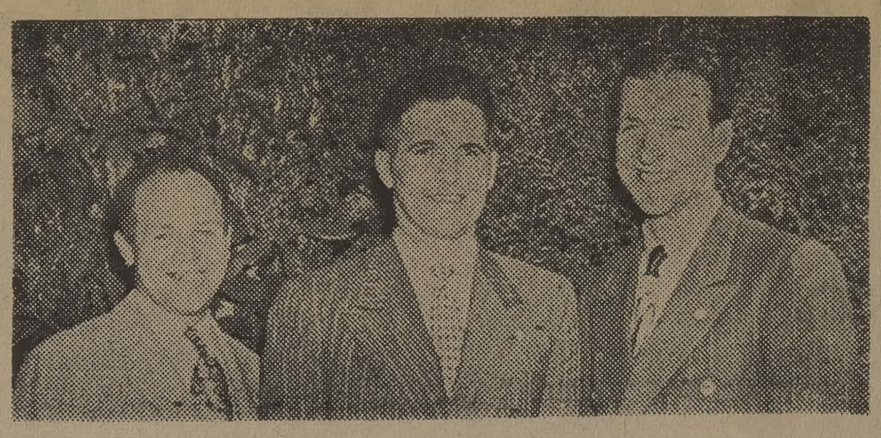
Walnut Creek Bishopric



Left to right: Joseph White, first counselor; Kenneth Jensen, bishop; Alma Uffens, second counselor. Photo by Del Carman, Richmond Bishopric.

Harold B. Lee

(Continued from page one)

an early vision that has steadied him all his life. His grandfather Smith, after whom he is named came to him and said: "You were given my name. Have you kept it in honor?" To this he answered: "I have done nothing to dishonor your name." And this has been a motto of his life ever since, to honor the name he bears.

President Clark, happening one day to come along where a child had met with a traffic accident and lay injured in the road broke through the circle of persons and, though clad in his white summer clothes, took the child tenderly in his arms to care and bless it. He has a heart of love for all mankind.

Of President McKay, a veteran writer for Colliers, who has interviewed countless great men of the world, said after interviewing Elder McKay: "I have travelled the world over, but I have never met a man like that man."

President Brigham Young once advised: "Let your remarks be brief; and, if they are not filled with life and spirit, let them be briefer."

A man was once advised, when about to leave to address a meeting: "If you haven't struck oil in the first 15 minutes, you had better stop boring."

There is a voice of divine in each of us that tells us whether what we are doing is pleasing to our Father.

Paul said that we wrestle against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Who tells us not to bother to go to meetings, not to keep the Sabbath etc.? It is that evil power. In one way or another, he breaks down our resolves, steals our free agency, and takes the rule of affairs. Anything that weakens free agency for an individual or a nation is of the devil.

Music At The Berkeley Stake Quarterly Conf.

Harry Oakes led the Pittsburg Ladies' Chorus in inspiring numbers at the morning and afternoon services of the conference. Anna May Barrus was at the piano.

Heard were, "The Green Cathedral" by Hahn; "Holiness," by Evan Stephans; "In the Fold," by Florence Jepperson Madsen, Utah composer; and the anthem by Stephens, "For the Strength of the Hills." Brother Oakes' leading of the congregational singing was masterful, resulting in great volume and feeling.

Robert Sant led the wonderful Mormon Male Chorus at the evening session of the conference. They sang, "Salutation to the Dawn," "The Lord is My Shepherd," and "Open Our Eyes." Mary Watkinson is organist for the Chorus.

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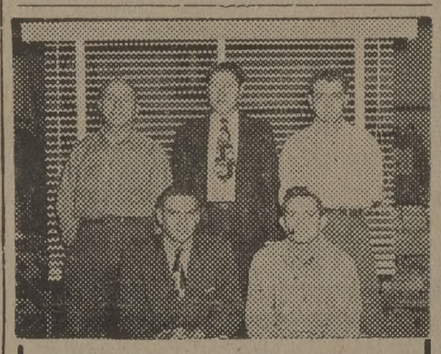
Report Tabulation Berkeley Excursion, April 9-16, 1949

Berkeley First Ward:			
Ida Holmes.			
Isaac B. Ball.			
Ward totals	11	0	0
Berkeley Second Ward:			
Milton H. Brinton.			
Sarah Edna Brinton.			
Leroy W. Clovis.			
Helen Clovis.			
Ina Hopkins.			
Milton E. Noe.			
Marguerite G. Noe.			
Ward Totals	56	10	137
Claremont Ward:			
Elizabeth Burdett.			
Elbert M. Gleason.			
James B. Gleason.			
Clara M. Gleason.			
John Handgartner.			
Fredrick J. Hatt.			
Christa E. Hatt.			
Nannette Millward.			
Thomas Rogers.			
Annie Rogers.			
Nancy Rawson.			
Ward Totals	94	66	85
Carquinez Ward:			
Lorenzo Eggerts.			
Eliza Faulkner.			
James Hill.			
Edna Hill.			
Ward Totals	31	0	14
East Richmond Ward:			
Golda Quinn.			
Ruth H. Yancy.			
Philip Lewis.			
Ward Totals	30	0	59
Martinez Ward:			
Edward Cullum.			
Mary E. Clulum.			
Ward Totals	17	0	0
Napa Ward:			
Alice P. Kent.			
Ward Totals	13	66	60
Pittsburg Ward:			
Melvin Clayton.			
Leona H. Clayton.			
Alta Magleby.			
Francis Mellor.			
Lily A. Mellor.			
Ward Totals	30	0	8
Vallejo Ward:			
Robt. L. Phibbs.			
Ward Totals	9	0	0
Richmond:			
Barbara Passey.			
Norma Passey.			
Both unmarried girls, recommended only for baptisms. Baptisms not possible on days of excurison.			
Berk. Stake Totals	291	134	363
Mrs. Joyce Leavitt, Santa Rosa, No. Calif. Mission	11	0	18
Mrs. Minnie Ellsworth, Maxwell Park Ward Oak. Stake	3	0	0
Mrs. Pearl Brossard, Quincy, Calif. Reno Stake	4	0	0
Grand Totals for all Excursion	309	134	381

*End. H-W C-P.

*Sealings—"H-W" Husband and Wife; and "C-P"—Children to Parents.



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Yours for Strength and Health

By BROTHER JONATHAN.

(First of a series of monthly talks by Jonathan D. Heaton, Oakland Ward).

Health is the first essential to every worth while accomplishment and is within reach of practically everyone who has the "Will and Desire" to become healthy and then maintain good health.

A little time and effort are required to maintain good health or to regain lost health, but the time and effort used, if directed properly can only result in a happier, more complete life.

....We, as Latter-day Saints, should be examples to the rest of the world for good health because we have the Word of Wisdom. However, too many of us fail to study or understand it and give it so little thought that we suffer unnecessarily or go through life only half living. We could, if we would but apply the Word of Wisdom to our everyday lives, be healthy and happy and enjoy life the way that we should.

To build a healthy body and to maintain good health one needs the proper foods, fresh air, pure water, and the right kind of exercise along with the proper rest and relaxation.

Food science has proven much in regard to food values and the content of vitamins and minerals in different foods, the bodily requirement of each and the effect on the body when some of these are lacking in the diet.

It is really interesting and exciting when one begins to see and feel the results that come through proper care of the body.

Just for diversion, why don't you try it?

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Glenn Shaw

(Continued from page one)

Stevenson January 8, 7932, in the Salt Lake Temple. They have six children—three boys and three girls.

Brother Shaw is a member of the Oakland Rotary club and is chairman of that club's publicity committee; a director for the California Associated Press Radio association (CAPRA); and a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Broadcasters, representing Northern California, the Hawaiian Islands and part of Nevada.

Walnut Crk. News

MARGARET OPENSHAW.

We are sorry to lose the Lee Byers family who are moving to Colorado. Also we suffer a great loss in that Earl Amtoft and family are moving to Richmond where he will fill an advanced position with the water company as supervisor. Sister Amtoft has been our fine Relief Society president.

The Sunday Schol superintendency is Tom Curtis, superintendent, with Jay Curtis and Jim Lee as counselors, and Janette Greene as secretary. We all appreciate our Sunday School officers and teachers. To Sister Osborne we now extend our thanks for her teaching, and wish to welcome as her successor, Herb Macy. Sister Osborne will now help to set up the Sunday School library.

The advanced senior class, leader John Openshaw, enjoyed a swimming and a roller skating party during the vacation week of April 11.

The Primary officers and teachers promise a similar program of great interest to the children. Let all come.

Walnut Creek is proud to become a full-fledged ward in our Berkeley Stake. This fast growing section should become one of the most flourishing wards. Let us all work and sacrifice to that end.

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Audene Adams	LA. 4-5247	Merial McComber	LA. 5-1004

Berkeley Ward

FIRST WARD

DAWNA ERICKSON and CAROL DUNHAM

The spirit of beauty and hope that is so characteristic of the Easter season was especially felt this year during the Easter services of Berkeley Ward. Significant incidents in the life of Christ were told by the members ow the ward in story and song, and as usual the participation in the program was extended to include many age groups.

The Stake Gold and Green Ball is one of the highlights in the social interests of all of the wards in the stake, and as usual Berkeley was privileged in having a very lovely representative. Joan Hickman, the secretary of the YWMIA was the queen for Berkeley First and Second Ward. We are very proud of Joan.

The Mutual has been planning a full program of activities to round out their social calendar. On April 26th a special festival of speech arts, music and drama was presented, and one of the most enjoyabel parts of the program was the play "The Day of the Duchess" presented by the BeeHive Girls under the direction of Nadine Williams and Jackie Grant. The mutual also sponsored a weenie roast at Live Oak Park on May 3rd, giving a wonderful time to all.

Although the Golden Gleaner work is one of the special and difficult areas of mutual activity, at this time we are proud to acknowledge the completion of this work by Barbara Green, who now is in attendance at BYU.

Berkeley First Ward has responded very actively to the call for funds for the Welfare project. Our enjoyable Fiesta sponsored by the ward, grossed $950.00.

The Relief Society is now busily planning a rummage sale. This will be as successful as the bazaar if the members of the ward give their full cooperation. All are asked to put aside our old clothes for the rummage sale. In this instance the Salvation Army is not to have first priority! The proceeds will be used for the Welfare project.

The literary lesson for the month of May for the Relief Society will feature a book review of "Nauvoo the Beautiful," given by Sister Ruth Hilton, who has been very active as a speaker for various church groups recently. Thursday night, April 21st, she presented a very inspirational talk on marriage to the Gamma Rho Chi group of Berkeley ward.

This group is again starting plans for another excursion to a temple, and the recent lessons have been stressing the significance and beauty of the temple ordinances and especially that of marriage. A specific date has not been set for the fourth trip, but the girls are continuing their genealogy research and work with the expectation of going to the temple.

The Fireside and Theta Chi Beta groups have been maintaining their characteristic enthusiasm. Two important events on the Theta Chi Beta calendar, under the temporary sponsorship of Brother and Sister Dean Jensen, are their annual dinner at which the Father and Son entertainment is always a highlight and on May 21st, an excursion to Marsh Creek for picnic, swimming and a general good time for all.

The members of the Fireside group were guests at the home of Brother and Sister Leslie Stone, April 21st, after spending the afternoon at Tilden Park, and completed the day with a barbecue, folk dancing and games.

High Mentality, Low Spirituality, Are Ever-present Dangers

Harold B. Lee, of the Council of Twelve, warned of the neglect of matters of the Spirit. A LDS student of philosophy who attained his Ph.D. in that field, came home and said, when again taking up his Church work, that he had neglected his religious side while at college, that now he found his spiritual mentality very low at the very time his scholarship mentality was at its highest. Here lies a grave danger. Such men have a difficult time all their lives if ever they grow up to their full spiritual stature again. Once stunted, they tree is scarcely ever normal again. So it was with this man, and he finally had to be cut off from the Church.

Dr. Millikin, the great scientist, declared at a meeting at Stanford University, that many scientists do not put religion to the selfsame procedure they use in scientific matters. If they did, they could make spiritual discoveries as truly as they now make scientific ones. Other scientists were quoted to the effect that in making their scientific discoveries often they come to a blank wall after saturating their minds with their problem. Finally there comes a flash of light. Einstein put it this way: "The mind must go beyond the borderline of pure reason, and then comes the flash of inspiration; things unknown come to view."

This is the divine working with the human, if they would only give God the credit. Likewise the humble hear the word of God, by the power of the Holy Ghost witness of the truth comes to them.

Man is saved no faster than he gains knowledge—but it is knowledge of the things of God that is here meant. Satan possesses knowledge but lacks pure intelligence which is the power to apply knowledge unto salvation.

"Young people of the Church, reach into the great University of Spiritual Knowledge. I bear you my testimony that I do know that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God," concluded Elder Lee.

Oakland Ward

BERNADINE M. ADAMS, TW. 3-4861.

WELCOME HOME! This is the greeting that is going out to our recently returned missionary, Armand Mauss, Bishop Mauss' son. Armand has been laboring most nobly and efficiently in the New England Mission and now comes home to tell us of the joys he experienced in this field. It's good to have him home. We and his family are proud and happy.

Another member of the younger group is home, for a visit however; Bob Bundy must return to Louisana where he is serving in the Army Air Forces, but is looking forward to his discharge in August.

ENGAGED! Yes, Beverly Duggan and Jim Call have become betrothed, and on Easter Sunday Beverly proudly displayed her ring. Congratulations to both.

Our MIA officers wish to thank all who assisted them during this winter season, and extend an invitation to all to their well-planned summer program, consisting of much outside activity. Remember—Mutual continues on—every Tuesday, at 7:30 p.m.

Bishop Mauss has forwarded greetings to all from Brother and Sister Schunaman, formerly of our ward. We all return hearty love to them.

Ray and Val Shields of Salt Lake also send their hellos to all and say they are returning soon.

The Chansonnette choir presented a beautiful program April 13th, for the Maxwell Park building fund, directed by Darrell Monson.

Do you like to eat, play games and be with all your friends? Then plan on coming to the ward HOMECOMING June 4 and 5.

Our average attendance at sacrament meetings for the past two months has been 25 per cent. Let's strive to raise this average.

A missionary farewell for Curtis O. Finch was enjoyed by all on April 26. Curtis, who has been very active in our ward, is going to labor in the Argentine Mission. We wish to send Curtis our many prayers; we will be looking forward to his letters and speedy return.

All those returning from the April General Conference report beautiful and inspiring meetings.

Berkeley Ward

SECOND WARD

Walter Barrett and family have gone to Denver to pick up their son, Scott Barrett, who has just completed a three year mission, the last year, serving as counsellor to the president of the Western States Mission. We are looking forward to seeing Scott and hearing an account of his missionary experiences as soon as he returns.

Our Bishop, Ward Green, wishes to remind all ward members that our fiscal year is drawing to a close. He would like members who have not already done so to please pay their Stake Building fund assessment by August 31st. We need to bring up our average attendance of our Sunday night meeings. The Bishop would like every member to make a special effort to attend the meeting of May 22nd. A special program is being planned. Be sure to hold this date in mind and help to break all previous attendance records.

Mrs. White gave a lecture on Nutrition at the second monthly meeting of Relief Society. The President, Grace Summerhayes, would like a large attendance. This should be very worthwhile for every mother who wishes to improve her family's helath, through correct eating. The closing date has not yet been announced for Relief Society this year. During the summer monthly meetings will be held.

Two very tiny but very important members have been added to the Second ward. Wanda and Joe Hilton have just announced the birth of their fourth child, a baby girl. Wanda Hammond gave birth to a little girl, Cynthia Carol, the second child for the Hammond family.

Mutual will continue one month longer than usual this year. The officers and teachers are working on special programs for each mutual night. Last Tuesday in April the Beehive girls gave a one-act play for the entire mutual. The title of the play was "The Day of the Duchess," directed by Nadine Williams and Jackie Grant. Helen Bower, Laurine Ellis, Janet Hill, Kay Franz, Barbara Beckett, Sandra Lindsey, Connie Davis, Cheryl Johnson, Kathleen Kaye, Delores Chase, Virginia Chase, Joan Sabine, Joy Ashamn took parts. Barbara Ellis was the announcer.

Barbara Green was made a Golden Gleaner. This is the highest achievement for a Mutual girl. Congratulations, Barbara, we are all proud of you.

Explorers Explore

As part of their vocational and avocational Explorations program, young men of Oakland Stake visited the Alameda County Court House April 13, guided by Dimond Ward Bishop Elmo Smith. Seen were the law library, the recorder's office and some of the filing systems; the Recorder's office with its great maps of the city, and where voters are registered and new voters signed in.

Visited also were several different court rooms. They also took the elevator to the top floor to visit the jail which the operator calls the "re-pent house."

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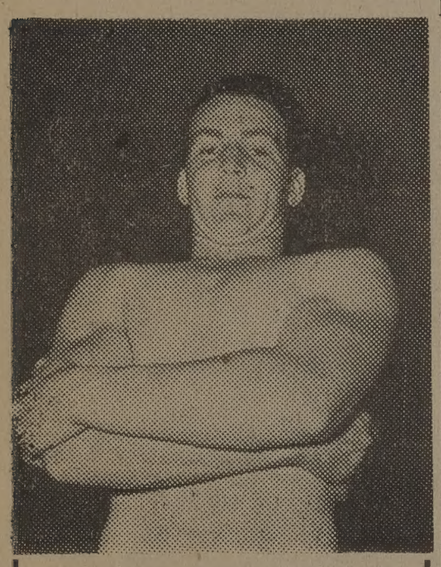

MARVIN ALEXANDER
Oakland Ward

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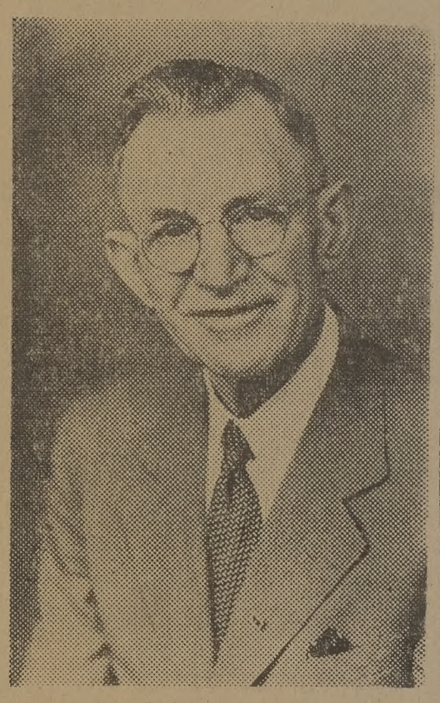
Geo. J. Walser Ends Third Mission

Elder George J. Walser, one of the sweetest spirited of men, who has recently returned from his third fulltime mission for the Church of Jesus Christ, had more unique experiences on this third mission than on first two, due to the fact that the Mission authori-



ties capitalized upon his wide experiences and placed him over Branches and then called him into the Mission Presidency as counselor to President Creed Hammond of the Northern States Mission.

Elder Walser was able to bring more people into the Church upon his third Mission than during both his former missions, which, by the way, were filled in Missiouri and Texas, respechively.

He reports having had great joy in seeing Christ's promises fulfilled that the gifts of the Gospel would follow the true believers. Upon one occasion, for example he records:

....."I was in Ohio on one of my conference assigements as a member of the Mission presidency (these assigements came to me almost every Sunday) when, after our morning session, a lady not of our faith came to me and asked me to administer to her; "annoint" her as she called it. As I was very busy between sessions interviewing relative to advancement and getting temple recommends, I asked her to wait until the close of the afternoon session, if she could.

"She remained, and after the conference I talk with her, and convinced myself that she actually had faith in the promises of Christ and in the authority that we had to bless her. The president of the Branch and I administered to her. In the confirmation of the annointment I promised her that if she really believed in Jesus the Christ and that we were his authorized servants she would be made perfectly whole.

"She met me a few days later, and rushing up to me, very profusely thanked me for what I had done for her. I asked her with some astonisihement what I had done for her that she should show me ..such ..gratiaude. ..She ..said, You are the one who prayed for me and blessed me. And from that very night I have been perfectly well, just as you promised me I would be..

"I told her I was very glad the Lord had thus blessed her but I told her not to thank me for I was only the Lord's humble servant doing what he desires me to do. I explained to her that she was blessed and healed by the Lord who graciously acknowledged his servant and also her faith had made her whole.

"It was then that I asked her what had been the matter with her. She said that she had a nervous affection that was getting worse until file had become unbearable. She said that doctors had not been able to help her at all.

"I could go on and on for their is no end to the testimonies I could bear relatives to the blessings of the Lord to the children of God. I am thankful to be numbered among his ministering servants".

Bay Area Music Festival June 9-10 The Year's Crowning Artistic Event

The Bay Area Music Festival will be held on June 10 and 11. The performance on this side of the bay will be held in the Westlake Junior High Auditorium, 2629 Harrison Street, Oakland, Friday, June 10, at 8 p.m. The San Francisco performance will be heard at 8 p.m., Saturday, June 11, at the Stake Chapel, 22nd and Lawton Streets, San Francisco. Rehearsals are now being held every Thursday, 7:30 p.m., in the Oakland ward chapel. Great enthusiasm is being shown.

Singers coming from Oakland, Berkeley, San Francisco and Palo Alto Stakes will participate. It is now known that there will be approximately 90 to 100 voices from Oakland, at least three voices from Berkeley; and 70 voices from San Francisco and some from Palo Alto.

Admission to the performance will be free. The festival will be advertised in local newspapers and possibly on the radio. The festival singers will later go to Salt Lake City by chartered bus to sing at the June MIA Conference.

In connection with the MIA June conference in Salt Lake City a bus (or busses) has been chartered. The round trip fare will be about twenty dollars. It is expected.. that.. approximately.. 40 singers; one or more couples from each ward for the dance festival; and many MIA faculty members will be going to Salt Lake. Reservations for the bus must be made with Darrel Monson or Rhea Gustaveson by June 2nd. Anyone going from the bay area is invited to participate at the reduced rate.

Claremont Ward

MRS. GRACE MILLWARD.

WEDDING BELLS: The beautifully decorated LDS Institute, 2368 Le Conte, furnished a romantic setting for the wedding which took place Thursday, April 28, 1949, uniting John W. Widtfeldt and Ann Wood. The bride was given away by her father, Joseph E. Wood. Lenore Wood, a sister, was maid of honor and Mary Morse was bridesmaid. Scott Bybee was best man and Joseph C. Wood, a brother, was the usher.

Refreshments were served in the Solarium and each person was given a piece of wedding cake, tucked into a cellophane bag lettered with a gold initial "W" to take home and dream upon. The groom is a graduate of the Berkeley high school and has served in the U. S. Navy. He returned from Europe in April 1948, after having spent a year in Sweden attending the University of Stockholm. John is now a student of the University of California pre legal. The bride received her A.B. in the spring of 1948 and is now doing post graduate at the University of California. She is a member of Lamba Delta Sigma. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon in Yosemite and upon their return will make their home in Berkeley.

Miss Lenore Wood is home for a short visit. Her homecoming at this time was especially to attend the wedding of her sister, Ann. This snooping Editor inquired about the pin she is wearing only to learn that Lenore is to be married in August. The lucky boy is Owen C. Bennion. This romance began when these two met at the BYU in Provo. Happy days.

Word has been received that Gene and Dick Poll have another beautiful baby girl, Jannifer, weighs seven pounds and twelve ounces and arrived April 7, 1949. Everyone concerned is doing nicely.

Miss Rhean Harker, Miss Marjorie Wood and Miss June Neilson were hostesses at a bridal shower for Miss Ann Wood on Monday, April 25, at the home of Rhean Harker. An evening of fun and entertainment was enjoyed by some fifty friends and many beautiful presents were presented to Ann.

Earl H. Meine has retired as Ward Clerk and is moving out of Claremont Ward. Mr. and Mrs. Meine are building a new home in San Leandro and we most surely are going to miss both of these very active people. We invite you to come back to Claremont often and may you find happiness among your new friends in San Leandro. Thanks for all the good work you have done in our Ward.

Frank E. Blair has accepted the responsibility of being our new Ward Clerk and we are looking forward to a pleasant association with him in this new calling.

Berkeley Stake Green and Gold Ball was held April 29. The highlight of the evening was when Miss Marjorie Wood was crowned "First Queen of the First Green and Gold Ball of the Berkeley Stake." President Glen E. Harmon crowned the queen. Eleven Princesses from the other wards of Berkeley Stake furnished a beautiful setting for the occasion. Congratualations, Marjorie, and thanks for bringing this honor to Claremont. We are proud of you.

Stop To Consider

FERN MOISER, MARTINEZ.

When one of the Apostles of the Church was riding home from Conference with another brother the conversation drifted around to tithing. "Well," the brother said, "I do not pay my tithing as you do. I put my money in the bank and whenever a worthy organization asks for a contribution I donate liberally to the cause. Don't you think that is a good way to pay tithing?" The Apostle said, "All I can say is that you are mighty generious with someone else's money"

Is this not true when we pay obligations or donations before we have paid a full tithe?

A man will say, "I owe my neighbor and must pay him before I can settle my tithing." But I owe God an honest tithing. He has given me a testimony of Jesus and a hope of eternal life, and I intend to pay him first, and my neighbors afterwards.

God calls non-tithe paying, "robbery". We all know the scripture.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein we have robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Malachi 3:8.)

What says God to us today? "They shall pay one-tenth of all their interest (gain) annually; and this shall be a standing law unto them forever," D. C. 119:4.

If we people of the wards and stakes pay our individual tithings we would have no other assessments, and each would be blessed as promised, and there would not be room enough to receive it.

Let us begin a resolution today to keep our individual tithings paid up; and thus multiply our blessings, as the Lord has promised.

Elmhurst Ward

RAELLEN REYNOLDS—SW. 8-6892.

There were many "hoboes" around our ward April 1. In order to receive your refreshments, a tin can was a necessity. Hot dogs and chocolate were the refreshments, furnished by Mutual, and served in the cans. Everyone had a wonderful time and we are looking forward to many more of these enjoyable socials.

We are very sorry to report that Sister Anna Mayer passed away April 15. We will miss her friendly face every Sunday morning.

Saturday, April 16, a big "spaghetti feed" was held by the Fireside. Approximately 25 persons were present with Hayward ward Firesiders as guests. Games were played after dinner with loads of fun for all. The Fireside needs new members—we had spaghetti left over. Next time we hope to see many more present. Thanks go to Lucille Brown (Fireside leader) and Sister Jacobs (mother of our president) who so kindly helped ith the food.

Many new and pretty hats brightened the chapel of Elmhurst Ward on Easter Sunday. A very beautiful program was given by both the Senior and Junior Sunday Schools. We were very glad to see many new faces and hope to see them all the time.

We wish to welcome new members into our ward. Elmhurst is growing each month. The new members are: Sister Eva Marie Benson, Sister Sharla Slohn, Brother and Sister Clareson, Sister Malbea Garcia, Brother and Sister Jolley with their two small daughters; Brother Chet Olsen, Brother and Sister Toone, and Brother and Sister Woffinden.

Do you know that there is an excellent movie going on at Elmhurst Ward every Saturday night? One main feature and cartoons for just a silver donation? The Scouts are the sponsors. Let's all come to the "Elmhurst Theater" every Saturday evening.

Sunday, April 24, the Fireside were the guests of Hayward Ward to discuss plans for a joint hayride. No definite date has been set but plans are in the making, so those interested come on out to Fireside.

"Dirty Dan" lost and "Siren Sue" and "Virtious Van" won out in the election for Gleaner vice president. Gloria Jacobs was our hero's name and the three names listed above were the "characters" in the skit. Congratulations, Gloria! We wish to thank Sisters Jacobs, Gloria's mother, for cooking such a delicious dinner for the girls.

Anyone wanting garments please contact Sister Estella McBride, SW. 8-6643.

We are sorry that Thelma Elmer is moving from our ward. She was Junior Sunday School Leader and the mother of Barbara Elmer, our queen. Just recently Brother Albert Elmer left for Salt Lake and now his wife expects to join him soon. We hope Barbara will remain with us though for a long time.

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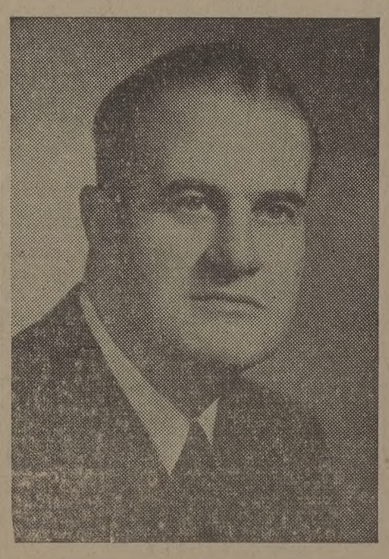

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Liahona Club News

Are building costs going up or down? Should the state do its own building or should state jobs be let to the highest bidders? These and similar questions were discussed by the Liahona Club under the leadership of and after a lecture by Cliff W. Dorwin, manager of Builders Exchange.

One dollar out of eight of the nation's expenditure goes for buildings of some kind or another. Building codes are now coming to folloy a uniform pattern with necessary local adaptions, but avoiding, as far as possible, restrictive and conflicting features. The costs cannot go up further for the purchaser will not follow.

Labor wants more take home pay, but labor is yet 25 per cent to 50 per cent less efficient than before the war. This will find a natural corrective, perhaps, in time of less than full employment.

Chairmen Sam Scott of the summer vacation club camp made a report of progress. Also discussion was allowed of a possible amendment to the club constitution regarding membership. This was conducted by Chairman, Curt Bybee. President A. D. Edicksen presided.

Next meeting will have special features. and will be held the fourth Monday in May at usual place, the Coit Hotel, Oakland.

Maxwell Pk. Ward

MARJORIE HAWKINS KE. 3-3864.

To those of you who have not heard! Maxwell Park has purchased an old hotel located in West Oakland. We have been able to get this building for a very nominal fee. We now need the help of every man in the ward to help dismantle it within six weeks time. The entire building must be torn down, and the premises cleared within this time. We would be able to realize a good profit from this for our Building Fund, by selling much of the lumber, etc., and using some in our own chapel. Please cooperate, everyone. This will prove whether the people of our Ward are really interested in obtaining a chapel. Men, please contact Brother Dick Yeaman, AN. 1-4557. And ladies, we will need volunteers to help feed those men who plan to come right from work to labor on the building. Please contact Sister Larsen KE. 2-8245, if you will be willing to donate food or help serve.

Word has been received from Brother and Sister Perry J. Earle, that they both are enjoying very good health, and are able to attend three sessions at the Mesa Temple each day. They send their love and best wishes to their many friends in this area. If the weather and their health permits they plan to stay in Arizona and do this fine work until June.

Those attending Conference in Salt Lake from our ward, were, Robert T. Paine and wife; Don J. Allphin, and Grant Hawkins, wife and family. Brther Hawkins gave a fine report on the Conference at a recent Sunday evening service.

Those of you who have room to house one or more M men or Gleaners for the Convention in May, please contact Harvey Hansen LO. 8-5825. Our ward is responsible for housing 75 of these young people. Their time during the day will be planned, so if you just have an extra place where they could sleep, Harvey would appreciate you calling him.

Gil Larsen had the very great honor of being one of six young men to attend a convention in Mexico for the YMCA. At this time Gil was initiated as a "Blue Ragger." Those of you who do not know what his honor is—it is given to very few people. You must excell in camping, leadership, etc. There is quite a history to his honor, and Gil will speak in Sacrament meeting in May on his trip. Come out and hear first hand. We are very proud to have such fine young men in our ward.

The Boy Scout troop have been very active since its organization by Brother Earle S. Larsen. Recently they went on an overnight trip, and from the sun-tanned faces, we know they had a good time.

A very lovely Easter program consisting of music and scripture, as well as other numbers was given on Easter morning, under the direction of the Sunday School Superintendent, Rodney Pocock. Everyone enjoyed this fine program, and Easter bonnets were very eye-catching, but we still maintain "the most important thing you wear—your expression—costs nothing."

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"Cast Thy Bread Upon The Waters"

By ROSCOE W. EARDLEY, General Church Welfare Committee.

((This is second in a series under this title written especially for The Messenger).

A widow with two little daughters living in Rotterdam, Holland, invited my companion and me to partake of a meal in her home every two weeks. She gave us this meal through scrimping on her own food and by fasting on the day that we ate our meal at her home. Even her two little girls did not eat with us. They usually stood away from the table with, what seemed to me, to be hungry eyes and pinched faces. My Companion and I were young, strong and healthy, and we felt it was not right to take food from the mouths of this widow and her two children. So we began making excuses for not accepting her hospitality.

One day she came to us with tears on her cheeks and asked us why we were depriving her of a blessing. She said that the elders who had preceded us in the branch had always partaken of her food and she felt that the Lord had blessed her for providing for those whom she believed to be His servants. We thought, then, of another widow who cast her two mites in the temple treasury, and of whom Jesus said to His diciples:

". . . this poor widow hath cast in more than they all, for all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had." Luke 21:3-4.

We returned to her home and again partook of her food. Each time we offered a special prayer that the Lord would open the windows of heaven and bless her and her two daughters for the sacrifice which they were making for those whom they considered His servants.

About two years ago I was walking along South Temple street. As I passed the Church Office Building a healthy, robust, well dressed woman came out of the building. She saw me and called, "Brother Eardley, wait a minute, wait a minute."

I waited. As she came down the steps to the sidewalk where I stood, I observed that her face was radiant with happiness. Enthusiastically she said, "I suppose I am one of the happiest women in Salt Lake City today."

I answered, "I'm glad you are happy. Tell me what makes you so happy so that I may rejoice with you."

She said, "About six months ago my husband was called on a mission to Holland and now I have been called to join him. I will spend two years teaching the Gospel in my native land. I am leaving tonight for the mission field. Certainly If have been blessed above most of my associates."

This woman was one of the **daughters of the widow who said that the Lord blessed her when she gave food to His servants.**

I related this experience at the Hillside Stake Conference. At the close of the meeting a middle-aged man came to the stand and said, "Brother Eardley, I was interested in the story that you told about the poor widow in Rotterdam. Please tell me her name."

I answered, "Her name was Sister Eilst."

He said, "I knew that was her name. While you were speaking I told my wife, 'Brother Eardley is telling the story of my Grandmother.' Not only was my Aunt Anna blessed because of the faith of her mother, but my own mother was also greatly blessed. (His mother was the other daughter.)

"You probably know that the way was opened almost miraculously for Grandmother Eilst to come to Zion where she lived in happiness, peace, and plenty during the closing years of her life. The blessings of her faith did not stop with her and her daughters. They have come down to her daughters' children and their grandchildren. I, too, am very happy and want to tell you that our eldest son has been called to preach the Gospel in his Great Grandmother's native land and will leave for the mission field in two weeks."

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Brentwood Ward

IVY BRECK

Our Branch visitors to the April General Conference returned filled with the spirit and wonder of the conference, bringing back the admonitions of the leaders. The theme running thru the Conference was that we should guard against Satan and evil.

Our Branch apricot orchard is being thinned and watered, although some of the men must work far into the night on their own orchards.

Because our branch is small, it becomes necessary for the same persons to officer most of the organizations, making many trips to Berkeley for meetings. Because of this it has been considered advantageous for Brentwood to become a part of the San Joaquin Stake which would mean only on-half hours driving instead of two hours to Berkeley. Of course it is with many regrets that the Branch voted in favor of the change. President Harmon expressed his regrets also, and this included the matter of apricots, too.

We are happy to have the visit of President Harmon and to hear his fine sermon, and hope the visit will be made again soon.

A farewell party was given recently at the home of Sam and Ivie Breck for the Wallace family who are moving to Utah. Sister Wallace and their two children joined the Church only a few months ago. Her testimony was interesting. She likened to Thomas Edison's story of inventing the electric light. Edison said that he built up a theory which he thought would work, but when he tried it he got only a temporary spark of light. So he discarded it and tried again; next time a better light but still not one that would burn long. Sister Wallace said she had studied one religion after another for years, getting a glimmer of light each time, but then it would go out, until she finally gave up.

Her husband was then transferred to Utah, but she hadn't given Mormonism a thought. Then the missionaries came to her door, and as she listened and read their tracts she began to see the light again. but this time instead of going out it has kept getting brighter, and is still increasing in brilliancy.

Our missionaries report four requests for baptism, and perhaps six will reopen finally. We all welcome these good friends.

COMPLIMENTS
Treadway Funeral Chapel...
NAPA, CALIFORNIA

Hayward Ward

MRS. ROBERT LIVINGSTON.

The Relief Society sponsored a dinner and parcel post sale for the benefit of the Welfare work, and thus raised nearly $250.

Nine girls won awards recently for diligent Church participation: Geraldine and Dawn Goetling, Maxine Ray, Charyl White, Nina Stewart,

The Relief Society sponsored a dinner and parcel post sale for the benefit of the Welfare work, and thus raised nearly $250.

Nine girls won awards recently for Church participation: Geraldine and Dawn Goetling, Maxine Ray, Charyl White, Nina Stewart, **Dorathy Webb, Patsy Satrks, Florence Wright and Vivian Nottage. Sister Ruth Hilton gave a fine talk of encouragement of the girls.**

For our Easter services the choir sang the cantata, "Victory." Reed Welhcoff had painted a very lovely picture of the Crucifixion for the occasion as a background for the service and choir. By the way, the choir would gladly welcome some new voices, especially male ones.

Ralph C. Smith of our bishopric gave an instructive report of the last General conference. It made one realize what is missed by those who do not attend these great conferences.

We are happy to report that little Linda Vannier has passed her siege of pneumonia, and is on her way to complete recovery at home now.

Permission to start the balance of the work for the completion of our fine chapel was given at a special meeting called by our Bishop. Thirty thousand dollars will do it. Accessments are made to each family and are to be paid as quickly as possible. Work at the chapel will go forward on Saturdays and on two nights of the week. It is planned to finish and to dedicate the chapel before the fall rains. Each person must help to the limit with labor and cash.

Bishop Webb, who has been confined to his bed for several months, underwent an operation on April 26, and we hope all will speedily set him again among us as our bishop in action as for the past 12 years, during which Hayward has increased from one of the smaller wards to the largest in Oakland stake, having now over a thousand members. The bishop's colon has grown to his backbone due to an earlier accident. Prayers are asked in his behalf.

The Ross McClellands and the Bernard Stewarts report a pleasant Easter week in Arizona where they visited many friends and relatives, saw many sights, and were able to do endowment work for six dead relatives. Sights seen included the Grand Canyon, Boulder Dam, the Petrified Forest, the Painted Desert and the Arizona desert in its glorious spring bloom. But, sad to report, one of Bernard's little boys came home with the mumps.

The Hayward stake missionaries have held two cottage meetings during the month of April.

Flyod Loomis and wife went to Arizona to visit a brother, Glen Loomis suffering from T. B. of the throat. Other members of the Loomis family came from Kansas to meet them in Arizona.....Gary Lamkin and children have been visiting in Los Angeles.....Bill Rosenkranz' mother, Mrs. Green, spent a week with Bill and Edythe.

Little Stephen Elliott came to live with Stanley and Caroline Stewart April 15. He came sneaking in at night but was very welcome. All concerned are doing well.

It was Noama Bodily of our Relief Society presidency who said, "If you want to be loved you have to be lovable."

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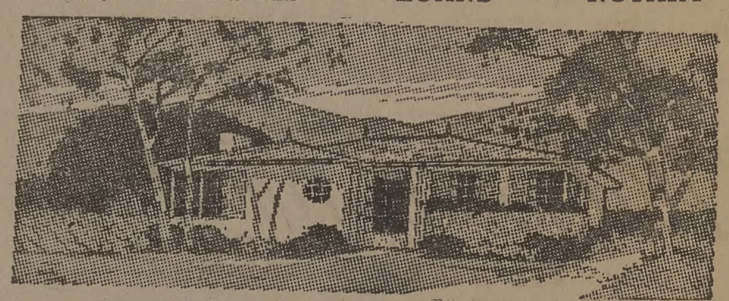

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Richmond Ward

BETTY BOURNE

The biggest event on Richmond's May calendar is the "KAPER KARNIVAL" which will be held in the Veterans' Memorial hall, Friday, May 13. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. the fun will include sideshows, stunts, movies, dancing, besides a fine program and, of course, lots of FOOD.

Everyone is invited to come to the "KAPER KARNIVAL" and have a hilarious time, and also help the Welfare Program at the same time. Remember, it's next Friday, May 13. The place the Veterans' Memorial hall.

A new member of the ward who has received plenty of admiration and attention is the infant Ralph Warren Clements born to Joan and Ted Clements.

May Asay was married to Elmer A. Richardson, April 23, by Bishop Wightman. Congratulations to both of you.

Algie Gifford was crowned queen of the ward Gold and Green Ball by Stake President W. Glenn Harmon. With Algie at the moment of crowning were her attendants, Norma Passey, LaVern Horn, Billy Streeter, Jean Passey and Marva Draper.

Mother's Day was May 8, and celebrated propertly. We feel it proper at this time to pay special homage to the "Mother" of Richmond ward, one whose testimony and life are an inspiration to the ward as well as to her family.

She was born Augusta Schneider in a little village near Danzig, Germany, April 24, 1873, the nineteenth child of her parents in a family that included four sets of twins.

One evening she happened to be in the room where LDS missionaries were talking to her brother and his wife. The result was that in 1905 all three of them were baptized. They were baptized on a moonlight night so cold they had to chop the ice through to water. Two years later they all came to Salt Lake City where Augusta became active in Sunday School and other Church work. In 1909 she married a young man named Timothy. Three years later they came to the Bay Area and to Richmond in 1916 where they have lived ever since.

You probably have guessed that this grand mother is Sister Augusta Morley, or "Grandma" Morley, as we affectionately call her. Her ability as a mother is reflected in her two fine children, Lillian Badger of Sebastopol where she is active in Church work, and Timothy Morley, Jr., our former bishop, and present Stake High Councillor. Sister Moreley has now 6 grand children. She celebrated her 76 birthday last April 24 at a family dinner and party held in her honor at her son's home.

We pay special tribute to her, our ward's eldest mother, and also we pay tribute to all the kindly mothers of our ward.

ARE YOU GOING TO BUY A CAR?.

If you are planning to get a new car, or if you know of someone who is going to get a new car, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH A MEMBER OF THE SAN LEANDRO WARD BISHOPRIC.

Our Ward Building Fund may profit considerably thru your cooperation.

Napa Ward News

CATHERINE J. WOOLLEY.

It was good to welcome the Kellers, Bruertons, Helen Murdock, Nancy Soper and Madge Olive from their trip to General Conference in Salt Lake City. We all enjoyed their conference reports and only wish we too could have been there and partaken of the spiritual feast, and beautiful Salt Lake in the spring.

Melba Soper Devraux and little daughter, Marcis, returned with them from a visit to Pocatello, Idaho. We enjoyed seeing Melba again, she was one of our active members.

The Walter Prescotts have just returned from Southern California where they went to meet their son, Walter Jr., and his bride whom he married in the Phillipines where he has been since the war. Welcome home, Walter; we are glad to have you and your wife with us.

We are happy to welcome three other newcomers into our ward, baby Carol Ann at the home of Willis and Clorence Plowman, a son to the Stewarts, and also the young son, Joseph Russel Reeder at the Fred M. Reeders. Congratulations to all.

Work is progressing on the Welfare Farm. Last week in answer to a call twelve women went out and cleaned the house. It was vacant. They had a lot of fun. We all felt it was a good idea to get our spring housecleaning done. The house was all in tip-top shape and ready for the tenants the next morning.

On Easter Sunday we were happy to have with us Joseph C. Eyring and Denzel Allen of the High Council. The large turnout of 210 pointed to the need of a new chapel. An inspiring program presented Cora Peterson and Bishop Keller as the speakers.

THUMB NAIL SKETCH OF A. VERL TAYSOM.

Abraham Verl Taysom was born July 4, 1906, in Afton, Wyoming, in a family of three sisters and two brothers. After finishing at the Star Valley high school he was called to the Northwestern States Missino. He was married the same year of his return to Ruth Bagley in the Logan Temple.

Living most of their life in Afton, Verl has worked in MIA and Sunday School before they moved to Vallejo in 1942, and in 1945 to Napa where he has been a willing worker whenever the call comes. For two years he has been the second counselor to Bishop Keller.

The Taysoms have two fine children: Donald, 20 years old, and Annette, 11 years. At present Don is attending the UAC in Logan, Utah. We are proud to have the Taysom family in Napa and hope that he will always be kept at Mare Island so we will continue to have them with us.

Returned Missionaries Heard At Berkeley Stake Conference

One of the treats of the Berkeley Stake Conference was the thrilling testimonies given by several returned missionaries. Heard were Keith Gaisford, French Mission, Robert Phibbs and Lamar Mylar, both from the North Central States Missions, and George Walser, Northern States Mission.

This is the third Mission for Elder Walser, who was called to serve as the first counselor to the president of the mission, Creed Hammond, traveling to Branch meetings almost weekly. He told an interesting story of meeting a minister in the home of a weak faith sister who had asked that her name be taken from the Church records. and how for several hours he preached to them until the minister left and the sister joyously thanked God that Elder Walser had made clear to her again the truths of the Gospel. She withdrew her request about her name.

Carquinez Ward

ELDA LOWRY

The time schedule for the Sunday meetings of the ward has been changed. All members observe the following schedule: Sunday School 9 a.m. Priesthood meeting 10:20 and Sacrament meeting 5:30 p.m. On Fast Day, the Fast Day meeting will be at 10 a.m. and Priesthood meeting will follow afterwards.

A ham dinner was held this past month, for the young men and young ladies of the ward, Aaronic priesthood age. During the dinner toasts were given by Vivian Sorensen, Ted Elmer, Dale Kershaw, Ray Pederson, Jr., and Della Kershaw. Bishop Lowry presented individual awards to the following young people, Nancy Hacking, Gay Sorensen, Nellie Kershaw, Lois Kelly, Lois Telford, Dawn Parker, Faye Telford, Gayle Pederson, Sorena Pederson, Vivian Sornsen, Bettie Kershaw, Sharlene Parker, Shirlene Kelly, Lois Stewart, Della Kershaw, Nora Hoye, Patsy Hoye, Edwin Lewis, Newel Standley, Jr., Ted Elmer, and Dale Kershaw. Certification of group awards were presented also, to the 15 and 16 year old girls and the 17 to 21 year old girls. The rest of the evening was spent with a special program, games and dancing. The boys, this year are all out to beat the girls in the number of quorum awards and group awards, but whosoever wins, boys or girls, the losers will serve the dinner next year.

Marvin Hunter has been sustained to the position of superintendent of the YMMIA with Phill Burgess as activity counselor. Lorraine Stephenson, will act as the special activity counselor for the summer program.

Geraldine Johnson was chosen by the student body of the Franklin Junior High School to be May queen this year in the annual Mayfair. We know Gerry is worthy of this honor.

San Leandro Ward

VERNA JACKSON

San Leandro ward has enjoyed another month of spiritual and social activity. Participants couldn't help but be impressed and repaid through their attendance at our Sunday services.

Our members are urged to attend, especially the evening sacrament meeting, not only because it is a definite command of our Father in Heaven, but also to properly end a holy day and gain a few thoughts to help each of us throughout the following week.

As for social activities, many have been offered to the members of the San Leandro Ward this season.

Our Mutual has been operating in full force and will continue throughout the summer with interesting activities for young and old.

PLEASE NOTE: Mutual will be held on Tuesday evenings instead of Wednesday, during the month of May, in conjunction with the Stake festival program. It is hoped our Ward members will attend these worthwhile evenings.

Vacation time has already begun for some of our members: for the Dan Bodilys, who are visiting in Portland, Oregon, and Idaho, and for Sister Francis Lauper and children who are spending a few weeks with Francis' parents in Chicago.

We are very happy to know that Jane Hayes is able to be up and around again after her long period of illness and sincerely hope she continues to improve in health.

This past week we received an interesting letter from Elder Milton Wells. His missionary activities in Louisana will soon be drawing to a close and we will be glad to welcome him back to the San Leandro Ward. We know from all reports, that he has accomplished a great deal in the service of our Lord.

"He who does the work of God will never suffer therefrom."—Verna Jackson.

Mark E. Peterson

(Continued from page one)

we are lulled to sleep and dragged down to hell.

Stressing the fact that without the Church it is not possible to work out our soul's salvation, Elder Peterson showed that as we participate in our Church programs we develop ourselves and we save ourselves and help others.

We are all a part of the Church, he advised, and under the direction of our priesthood leaders we can build programs. To them we pledge undivided loyalty and devotion, especially since it can be said of them that they are chosen by prophecy and by laying on of hands become authorities in the Church.

Book Suggestions

Keep Up-to-date in Church Book Reading

Treasures to Share $2.00
Essentials of the Gospel for the investigator and our own young people.

These Amazing Mormons $1.00
A newspaperman's frank description of the Mormons. Fine for friends and members alike.

Mormon Architecture $6.00
Some LDS most beautiful Church buildings, Pages 9x12.

Genes of Thought $1.00
By Dr. Milton R. Hunter.

What of the Mormons $1.50
Gordon B. Hinckley. First edition sold out in record time.

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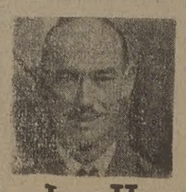
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Some Comments On "Stop and Think"

(The editor of The Messenger and also the author of the column, "Stop and Think," Calvin Simons, have repeatedly invited replies, and have wondered why more did not react to the challenging viewpoints expressed. At last we have one to print. Others are urgently invited from time to time. The author of "Stop and Think" speaks as one young Latter-day Saint, and not for the Church, nor for The Messenger. He and we expect others' views will differ).

Dear Editor, The Messenger:

"Stop and Think," page three of the April Messenger, discusses an apparent paradox between beliefs in "an everpresent concern of God for his children," and the position of the Church regarding the "Great Apostacy."

Brother Simons declares, "If revelation is continuous, there is no just cause for thinking that there ever was a period in the history of the world when God has ever completely sealed the heavens."

Here I think we need to dis distinguish between revelation" and "inspiration." Continuous revelation in LDS literature means the word of God coming to man through a holy prophet to whom has been given divine authority and ordination at the hands of heavenly beings, or through unbroken links of the Holy Priesthood received from such beings. Inspiration, on the other hand, is the general guidance of mankind by the Spirit of the Lord.

Revelation to man through God's prophets has failed mankind through disobedience for many different long periods of history. But inspiration has been continuous in the sense that all who seek their Father sincerely, even during these periods of general apostacy, may find Him.

There is a spirit that is born with every person who comes into mortality, and which accompanies every man or woman through the world who hearkeneth to the voice of the Lord. Such was declared through the Prophet Joseph Smith in early days. This may be called continuous inspiration, but to call it continuous revelation leads to confusion of terms and to consequent confusion of thought.

Before the Prophet Joseph Smith had organized the Church, he had received and published the beautiful, liberal words of Alma teaching the broadminded doctrine to narrowminded sectarians that God sends teachers to all nations and ages to teach as much of His truth as He sees fit that they should have. Alma 30:8.

In this sense the heavens have never been completely sealed. But is this to say that there has been no Great Apostacy during which the socalled Christian churches lacked authorized prophets and Priesthood? By no means. In fact apostacies, in the accepted meaning of the term, have been only too common throughout the sad history of mankind: before the flood; in Abraham's day; among Israel before the Savior's coming; and among the Lamanites after the last great battle.

One would scarcely say that the American Indians have had "continuous revelation." Yet we can accept the truth in Longfellow's lines:

"That in even savage bosoms
These are longings, yearnings, strivings
For the good they comprehend not;
That the feeble hand and helpGroping blindly in the darkness less,
Touch God's right hand in that darkness
And are lifted up and strengthened."

No doubt during the Dark Ages of the Great Apostacy many honest souls touched God's right hand in their darkness and were lifted up and strengthened. Some were led to start great movements. The Book of Mormon tells us that Columbus was led by the Holy Ghost (I Nephi 13:12). We believe that Luther was guided by our Father, for, as "Stop and Think" says, he and others "laid the groundwork for the restoration of the Gospel."

But we know that these men did not hold the Holy Priesthood. Therein "Stop and Think" is in grave error, we think, in asserting "We do believe that these men held the Priesthood."

God has never "neglected his children" on this earth, as "Stop and Think" seems to intimate; nor is he neglecting them today, and even in the next world He will eventually succeed in winning all to Him, until finally He will have the extreme joy of seeing everyone of them (excepting possibly the Sons of Perdition) in one of the three great kingdoms of glory and joyously bowing the keen and confessing their great satisfaction that Jesus is the Christ.

And certainly Latter-day Saints have ever been taught "to work with other people and other groups which work for righteousness," though we may fail in this regard as individauls. Many times we are in the forefront as in Red Cross and Community Chest drives, although we care for our own through the Welfare Program which our Heavenly Father has given to us through "continuous revelation" through His authorized prophets in our very day.

—Nathan Tolman.

Brentwood Branch Presidency

Left to right: Floyd Pedersen, first counselor; Le Roy Geddes, president; and Lester Shofield, second counselor.—Photo by Del Carman, Richmond Bishopric.

Utah News Notes

"Blackrock," the popular Great Salt Lake bathing beach not far from Saltair, is owned by Mrs. Virginia Latses, now living in San Francisco. . . .

Utah's Draper cooperative sold $5,000,000 worth of eggs on the southern California market in 1948 and now ships to Hawaii. Draper gets a premium of four cents over other eggs on the Los Angeles market. . . .

Utah's water rights toColorado river water will double the present supply of irrigation water in Utah when fully developed. . . .

The Federal Atomic Energy Commission announces plans in April 1949 for operation of a fifth plant on the Colorado-Utah plateau for uranium ore. . . .

BYU at Provo lists a record class of 766 seniors for 1949 graduation June 7. The U. of U. announces a graduating class of approximately 1660 at their commencement exercises June 14. Three-fourths are men, veterans ranking two to one over non-veteran students. . . .

Startling news comes that a union local on the U. of U. campus was organized April 26, 1949, bringing to Utah its only unionized educational group. It is said the local will unionize both teachers and administrative employees at the university, according to CIO's state president.

New Presidency

(Continued from page one)

growth of the Church of Jesus Christ in this area and thanked all who had helped.

"It has been a pleasure to work with these men," he said. He also expressed thanks to Sister Hilton for her fine support and expressed gratitude for the fact that five of his sons had been able to fill missions, that another is now in the field, and another hopes to go this fall.

"I hope to go forward," he said, "and to fulfill other parts of my patriarchal blessings and I will be happy to continue to serve—in any capacity—to the best of my ability."

Sister Hilton responded to many words of praise with an expression of appreciation and gratitude for the many fine friendships and intimate contacts with so many good people and for the privilege of having had presiding authorities visit their home.

Oakland's new stake president, Delbert F. Wright, stated that he has enjoyed his work with President Hilton whose patience and understanding brought out the best in him.

"There is no kindlier, nor lovelier person than Sister Hilton," he added, and concluded that in this time of confused aims in modern times, we can look to our Heavenly Father for guidance in helping us to carry on God's work."

New First Counselor Angus Norberg told of a number of the heart-warming experiences in his work with President Hilton and President Wright.

Paul Hallman stated that we are the chief beneficiaries of our endeavors and that each should try to do his bit to help in the work. He stressed the importance of building love and understanding in the home—the nation—the world.

Rufus Phelps told of his enjoying association with these men and asked that faith and prayers help him in his humble efforts.

Pittsburg Ward

GLORIA MAGLEBY.

Approximately 50 children of Primary age turned out on April 16 to participate in an Easter party featuring an Easter egg rolling contest. Prizes were awarded to the winner of a younger group and the champ of the "grown-up" kids." Games were played and candy eggs distributed to all by the good sisters of Pittsburg's flourishing Primary organization.

The Sunday School Officers and Teashers met recently at the homeof Mr. and Mrs. Mario Rodella in Antioch for a business meeting and social. Plans for the Mother's Day program were thoroughly discussed and other pertinent Sunday School problems taken up. A lesson and discussion on the Art of Story Telling was led by Thora Astle and proved to be a splendid help to the teachers present. Games were played (what would we do without "Lawer?") and refreshments served.

As the result of an intensive campaign for membership the Pittsburg MIA attendance has increased a good many fold and as a result of class competition for the most consistent and best attendance there will be a party for the two top classes presented by the two losing classes. Those in between come as guests of the losers. The way it stands the Special Interest Class and the M Men and Gleaners are going to be hosts to the rest of the MIA but there's quite a consolation in that fact because we can surely be assured of a lively party—ahem!

A Music Festival on April 19 was attended by a good crowd of Pittsburgers who can testify to the good quality of the musiceived by all. The program consisted of a cal program and to the enjoyment reladies double trio: Lenna Searson, Vera Kirby, Mildred Gibbs, Carol Clayton, Boots Barrus and Gloria Magleby directed by Thora Astle with Shirley May Gibbs as accompanist; a ladies' duet: Mildred and Shirley May Gibbs; a mixed quartet: Vera and Harvey Kirby and Thora and LaFarr Astle; and vocal solos by LaFarr Astle and Boots Barrus. Living pictures were portrayed by Marlene Maughan, Rheul Barton and Paul Krey.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 3—Tuesday, MIA. Classes with a special book review in the assembly.

May 10—Tuesday, Movies!

May 17—Tuesday, Party for winners of attendance contest in MIA.

May 21—Relief Society Closing Social. For all members of Relief Society and their partners. Gay Nineties theme so come in Costume. Pot luck supper.

A recent baptism in the ward, that of Richard Cox, stationed at Camp Stoneman, has livened up the whole ward. We now have a new deacon and what is more a Scoutmaster. In Pittsburg the converts receive their certificate of confirmation and their assignment in the ward at the same time—almost!

The Ladies' Chorus under the direction of Harry Oakes will present the music at the general sessions of Stake Conference, May 1. Chorus members are practicing fast and furiously for the occasion.

The latest of MIA Festival events was held on April 26, the Speech Festival. Carol Clayton was in charge with the following participating: Marion Dansie, Gloria Magleby, Ronald Hunt, Joyce Johnson, Lena Clayton, Garvel Dansie, Alta Magleby, Mildred Gibbs, Lenna Searson, Carol Clayton and Ned Kirkham.

Dimond Ward

STELLA S. HOOPES

A newcomer in our Ward is in desperate need of an unfurnished house, apartment or room in an LDS home. Has a daughter ten. If anyone can help this young mother, call Ruth Nelson at KE. 3-0231 evenings after six, it will be greatly appreciated.

On April 13th Cupid made a direct hit at Sidney Lewis and Gerard Hinman. They were married by Bishop Elmo Smith and were honored at a reception at Hotel Claremont by Sidney's mother, Peggy Lewis. The best of everything to you, Sidney and Gerard.

President Eugene Hilton has accepted a new appointment with the Oakland Public Schools. We all feel this a very important and needed assignment and know President Hilton is the man for it. We all wish you the very best of everything in your new work.

Iplan to leave shortly to meet Ren in Chicago; from there we will go to New York where we hope to visit with President Hilton while he is there.

Our best wishes to our new Stake President Delbert F. Wright. Also Dennis Lauper, our new High Counselor and to Rufus Phelps, now President of the High Priests' Quorum.

Dimond Ward had a beautiful program for Easter Sunday. The day was lovely. The little children in their finery carrying little stuffed animals and the women in their gayly decorated chapeaux were sights to be seen. The music given by the choir in the evening was excellent. Our choir works hard and is deserving of much praise for their time and efforts.

April 26th the Aaronic Priesthood and LDS Girls were honored at a dinner at Dimond Ward. Deacons, Teachers and Priests received their Standard Quorum Awards and 15 and 16 year old girls received the Group Award.

The last Mutual in April was an enjoyable one. A potluck dinner was served after which a movie was shown. I have been informed the Mutual has an interesting summer program.

We are happy to hear reports on the April Conference from Bishop Smith. It was nice June was able to go with Elmo to Salt Lake.

Adella Swenson has gone to Utah to visit her mother who is ailing. We hope it isn't serious, Adella.

Ladies, there is only one more month of Relief Society meetings so let us take advantage of it.

Sorry to hear Elsie Lyon and Wanda Bennett have been ill but hope they are both on the mend.

The evening of the Primary Conference, Sue Jane Hall, Jo Ann Fry and Beth Wilson graduated from Seagulls into the Mutual Bee Hive. Congratulations girls.

Music for the Oakland Stake quarterly conference sessions, provided by the Mormon Male Chorus, under the direction of Robert Sant, drew praise from visiting Church Authorities, Ezra T. Benson and Mark E. Peterson.

Wayne E. Mayhew Quotes Pres. Smith

Wayne E. Mayhew of the Berkeley Stake presidency quoted from the Conference sermons of President Smith to show the spirit of love and kindliness which all at the Conference felt in rich abundance.

He also stressed the fact of continuous revelation from the lips of the properly ordained leaders of the Church of Christ:

"And whatsoever they shall speak when moved upon by the Holy Ghost shall be scripture shall be the will of the Lord, Lord, shall be the mind of the Lord, shall be the word of the Lord, shall be the voice of the Lord, and the power of God unto salvation."

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Berkeley Stake Mesa Temple Excursion April 9-16, 1949, 45 Excursionists

Seen in the picture are Mr. and Mrs. Perry J. Earl (last couple standing at left end of picture) of Maxwell Park ward who have been spending two months in the temple; Charles C. Carr, former bishop of Claremont ward, and May Carr seated together near the left end of picture; James Wright, the temple worker seated at right end of photo, assigned to look after the welfare of the excursion group and who took us on a free auto sight-seeing trip to the Apache village and to Pueblo Grande ruins, and standing at extreme right Mrs. Pearl Brossard from Quincy, California, and Mrs. Minnie Ellsworth of Maxwell Park ward. Also seen standing fifth from the right end of line is Helen Clovis and, in front of her, her two young daughters and Roy Clovis, her husband. This couple were married in the temple at this time for eternity, and also had their two children sealed to them. Missing from the photo are Nanette Millward, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kelly, and Mrs. Elizabeth Burdett, all of Claremont ward, and Barbara and Norma Passey of Richmond ward. The total of 45 members of the excursion were able to complete over 300 endowments and over 500 sealings, or an average of about five endowments and seven sealings for each member. The names of all 45 members of the excursion and the total temple work done for each ward is given in another column of this Messenger.

THINGS HEARD ON THE MESA TRIP, BERKELEY STAKE

A former stake genealogical excursion from the east bay was conducted in April, 1935. So far as we know the only one on that excursion who also made the April 9-16, 1949 trip was I. B. Ball. At that time there was only one stake in the east bay region.

The two young daughters of Roy and Helen Clovis who were part of the excursion so that they could be sealed to their parents, were a real entertainment feature of the bus ride, making for pleasant diversion.

Fred J. Hatt, who overdid himself just a little in the number of sealings he did at one time, was sufficiently recovered from his heart attack to make the bus trip with the party, and to return to work the next work day after getting home.

Norma and Barbara Passey, two young ladies from Richmond, made a nice part of the excursion. Altho they were not able to do baptisms as they had hoped, still they did attend some of the temple testimony meetings. For the most part they were able to rest, visit in Phoenix and Mesa and on the temple grounds. They were permitted to see the baptismal front in the temple.

Virginia Barrett Rogers (our old Berkeley member now married and living in Mesa) was in the temple to greet the excursion and to do temple work as is their weekly custom. She sends greetings.

Bro. and Sis. Perry J. Earl of Maxwell Park ward send word that they will be home about the last of May after spending about two months doing temple work at Mesa as representatives of the ward and stake high priests' quorum. They have been in better health than for some time past.

Milton Brinton visited with his brother who lives in Mesa and is one of the regular temple workers. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rogers visited with their relatives who live in and near Mesa. Her mother is 100 years old.

Returned Missionaries Thrill Oakland Stake Conference With Testimonies

Sterling Yeaman of Alameda ward, recently returned from a mission in South America, said he was grateful for the fact that he had been able to complete an LDS mission to South America. He told about finding out that some people still worship idols. Gerardus J. Scheuler, recently returned with his wife from a Netherlands mission, told about the Dutch people providing the best they had for the missionaries and stated that the missionary work is a grand work.

Sister Scheuler told of some of her experiences in the Netherlands missions including holding Primary in homes. She reported that the members were very good to them and expressed thanks for a strong testimony regarding the truthfulness of the Gospel.

Armand Mauss, recently returned from New Engalnd States mission, stressed the fact that people in this country are in need of the Gospel. He rejoiced in the share he had had in spreading divine truth.

President W. Aird MacDonald, first president of the stake in Northern California, described the growth of the Church in this area. Urging Saints to read again the Book of Mormon, he concluded that this is a time for less talking and more doing.

Ezra Taft Benson

(Continued from page 1)

Prophecies made by Joseph Smith are coming true.

Temple work is not just for the old folks, he pointed out as he urged Saints to remember that we not only work in the Temples for the dead but just as much for the living.

We should look to going thru the Temple as one of the very great things in life.

To bear out this point he told about some of the people who had braved great hardships and come from Europe to go through the temple.

We need the living of good lives, but we also need the ordinances, he declared. And the higher ordinances can only be done in the temples—in the houses of the Lord constructed for that purpose.

For Celestial glory we must live the Celestial law and qualification for salvation cannot be completed without the temple ordinances.

We must live the celestial law and the whole law, he charged, and we must keep and comply with the ordinances of the Gospel.

Conv. Program

(Continued from page one)

hundreds will gather for breakfast at the famous Plands Restaurant (just a few blocks east of the Oakland chapel, on MacArthur at 8:30). The breakfast will be free of charge. Following, at 10:30 there will be an outstanding inspirational meeting for all convention delegates at the Oakland chapel. Here will be seen a pageant on the convention theme, and heard will be an address by our convention visitor from Salt Lake City, Ralph W. Hardy. At noon box lunches will be served.

Sunday afternoon will bring the divine thrill of the convention, our great testimony meeting at 2 p.m.

Sunday evening all convention participants will be special guests at four of the wards of Oakland stake, followed with especially arranged Firesides.

Monday brings the crowning event! Several 32-passenger busses will take the group on a charmed sight-seeing trip over both bay bridges, and over the Richmond ferry, through marvelous Marin, Chinatown, Fisherman's Wharf, and the Cliff House.

Music for the convention has been in practice for many weeks. It will be rendered by the Bay Area Chorus which has been organized from four stakes to sing at the Bay Area Music Festival, and also in Salt Lake City at the all-Church Festival.

Here, then, is THE ONE CONVENTION that will have everyone's attention.

Temple Excursion

(Continued from Page 1)

one of the temple workers who is assigned the duty of meeting and looking after the housing of all temple excursionists. He assigned all who so desired (and nearly all did so desire) rooms in the homes of the Mesa Saints at the rate of one dollar per person per day, and he also took the group on an automobile sight-seeing trip to Pueblo Grande, an ancient Indian ruin, and to the Apache Indian school and reservation where the group donated the money to buy an ice cream treat for each of the 275 Indian children. The teachers are all white persons.

Southland Briefs

The California Intermountain News, the LDS newspaper that serves all the stakes in Southern California, has now become a weekly after ten years as a biweekly (every two weeks). Ned Redding, a printer, and his wife, Audrey ,editor, own and run the paper. The brother of our Angus N. Norberg of Oakland stake presidency, Charles Norberg has just been made a patriarch in the Los Angeles Stake.

Population within the limits of the California Mission (it extends into Arizona and southern Nevada), has increased from 4400 to 7100 during the past three years. Baptisms in 1946 were 168; in 1947, 396; and in 1949, 452.

May 7 in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, all residents of So. California who were former residents of Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Arizona and New Mexico, will meet for a reunion under the All-States Society's sponsorship.

Dr. E. R. Ranker's Conf. Remarks

Dr. Emery Ranker spoke with rare effectiveness due to the power of the spirit of testimony that was upon him at the quarterly conference Sunday, May 1, 1949. One point stressed was that the Lord has counseled that man should **seek knowledge by study and also by faith."**

This formula brings truths to light that build up the mind and the soul and strengthens faith. But the world has neglected this dual plan for the safe seeking of knowledge, and has sought truth without calling upon God in faith and then has failed to give God praise in the knowledge thus acquired. From this has comes knowledge that has resulted in man's hurt.

There is one sure way to know the truth of any teaching by any man, and by which we may come to a knowledge of the truth of the Gospel. This was given by Moroni: "Ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Jesus Christ if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost. And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things. Moroni 10:4,5.

Elder Ranker bore testimony to the power of the Holy Ghost that is with the apostles in their ministry. He told of one lady who had been sick and had come to the Saturday evening session of this stake conference and had asked Harold B. Lee to administer to her. Later on her way home she broke into tears and declared that the illness had left her and she was healed.

This reminded Elder Ranker of a similar healing that had occured in the case of Sister Snowball, who had been healed following a promise made by this same apostle when laying his hands upon and setting Bro. Snowball apart as a member of the Stake High Council, when the stake was first organized.

How Oscar Fontano Sold Books of Mormon

At a 1936 Missionary Report meeting, Brother Oscar said he had come upon a better way to lead people to desire to own the Book of Mormon. He has kindly penned us his experiences in this particular:

"And Christ truly said unto our fathers: 'If ye have faith ye can do all things which are expedient unto me.' Moroni 10:23."

I have been in the missionary service ever since the Stake Mission was inaugurated in this part of the Lord's vineyard. But not until recently have I found out how to sell or to loan the Book of Mormon to those with whom I come in contact.

In leading people into a conversation, I tell them that the Lord spoke again from heaven and restored the fulness of the everlasting gospel in the most wonderful book ever given to the world. They usually ask what book that is. Then of course I tell them that it is the Book of Mormon, which is not only the fulness of the gospel, but a new witness for God. At the same time it is a history of a nation which once flourished on this continent which was brought down by disobedience of the laws of God.

It is also a history of the American Indians. Would you like to learn something about these Indians and from whence they sprang? It is the most wonderful book you have ever read, and if you read it with the spirit with which it is written, the Lord will bless you for your efforts and will lead you to a full knowledge of his son, Jesus Christ, which is worth more than anything you can possess in this world.

And so by using this method I have been successfully selling or loaning many Books of Mormon.

May God bless all the missionaries, so they may discharge their duties humbly and earnestly, is the prayer of your brother in the Gospel.

Ernest Stout Dies

Ernest Stout of Stout Tires Co., successors to C. Tracy Stout Co., died suddenly in mid-April. Lovely funeral services were held under direction of Bishop Gardner at McNary-Berg Parlors on University Avenue, Berkeley.

Ernest Stout was a very affable and industrious man, a leader in Veterans' organizations. His brothers, Afton and Homer, will carry on the tire business as usual, although they miss Ernest very sorely at his usual duties.